

THE AveNEWS



VOLUME 4, ISSUE 12

DECEMBER 2010

Meet Your Neighbor This Month and Improve Your Neighborhood

Rick Davis, ICMA-CM
Town Manager

Our community recently completed a very extensive strategic planning process. The product of this very inclusive and public effort is a strategic direction for the Town which I believe is second to none. In it, residents of Fountain Hills described in no uncertain terms what is important to them and in what direction they believe the Town ought to be traveling.

Eight community-driven values were identified. One of them highlights the need to increase civility and neighborliness within our community. In response to this, the Town Council set as one of eight goals in the current fiscal year the following: "Enrich our community by promoting internal civility and promoting partnerships and other opportunities that bring citizens together and foster an atmosphere of neighborliness and cooperation."

Just how to accomplish this was the subject of several staff discussions. One specific question was, "How can we expect people to be neighborly when they don't even know their neighbors?" So, step one would be to encourage each other to extend a hand outside their comfort zones and get to know each other.

An initiative was finally presented to the Council that involved designating a week in the year as "Meet Your Neighbor Week." The premise behind this idea is that the Mayor would proclaim the week of December 12th through 18th as the week when residents will be encouraged to hold neighborhood get-togethers, introduce themselves to each other, and visit those within their neighborhood who perhaps don't enjoy frequent visits or opportunities for socialization.

The Holidays seem like a good time to hold "Meet Your Neighbor Week." It's usually a time when it is easier to grab a plate of cookies or reassemble various and sundry edibles that you've received from friends and relatives and re-gift those to your neighbors. Remember, the point isn't the gift — It is the visit. This is a time, more than any other during the year, when people are focused a little more on being kind and giving. It is also a time when loneliness is more pronounced in the lives of some of our senior citizens. A visit could make all the difference in the world to someone who otherwise would pass the Holidays in solitude.



A secondary benefit, meanwhile, of meeting your neighbor is that neighborhoods where residents know each other are generally healthier neighborhoods. They are safer neighborhoods where neighbor watches out for neighbor and where property owners exercise a little extra care on their yard simply because they are more concerned with the appearance of "their street."

We ask that you take a few moments this month to "meet your neighbors." If you already know them, get reacquainted. Our Town staff stands ready to assist and support you in this endeavor — especially if you need some guidance with throwing a neighborhood party. Just give us a call. We will do whatever is feasible to support your efforts.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Sanitary Project Rolls Forward, Fountain Turns 40	2
Fountain Hills Sidewalk, Meet Your Neighbor Week	3
River of Time Museum, Join the Seniors and Boomers	4
Community Center Magic, Stroll in the Glow, Luminarias Take In an Art Walk, Fabulously Fun Friday	5
Preserve Scheduled Hike, Art and Farmers Market on the Avenue, Deck the Community Center	6
Senior and Boomer Activities	7
Recreation's December Fun	8
Rose Gonsoulin— Volunteer of the Month, Munch & Music	9



AveNEWS is the official newsletter of the Town of Fountain Hills. Unauthorized reproduction and distribution of this publication is prohibited.

Critical Sanitary Project Rolls Forward in December

The Fountain Hills Sanitary District will begin construction of a well and pipeline project on December 6th in the downtown area. The project will place into service an Aquifer Storage and Recovery well located north of the Community Center. The well is critical to the Sanitary District's operation as it will recharge reclaimed water from their Advanced Water Treatment Facility on Kiwanis Drive during the winter months and pump groundwater from the well to help meet peak irrigation demands during the summer.

The project will begin after the December 4th "Stroll in the Glow" event and is anticipated to be substantially completed prior to the "Great Fair" in late February of 2011. In order to safely and efficiently construct the pipelines, traffic restrictions and periodic road closures will be required. Staff has reviewed the contractor's traffic control plans to ensure safety for the traveling public and to minimize impacts to businesses in the area. The following roadways will be affected:

- Southbound lanes of Saguaro Blvd. between Avenue of the Fountains to just north of the Holiday Inn Express,
- Eastbound Avenue of the Fountains between Saguaro and La Montana,
- Northbound La Montana between Avenue of the Fountains and El Lago
- Eastbound El Lago between La Montana and Saguaro
- The alley west of Saguaro between El Lago and Gunsight
- Crossing Saguaro at Gunsight, into the Sanitary District's Advanced Water Treatment Facility.

Work within these streets should take approximately 2-1/2 months to complete and will begin on Saguaro and Avenue of the Fountains. Construction will take place in segments so that all of the construction doesn't occur at the same time. The contractor for the project is MGC Contractors and can be reached at 602-437-5000 for questions during construction. The contractor will be required to minimize any inconvenience to all adjacent businesses, residents and property owners to the extent possible; however, noise and some restricted traffic movement is inevitable.

Should there be any questions concerning this project, please contact the Sanitary District office at 480-837-9444 or the Town's Inspector at 602-721-2646.



Fountain Turns Big 40 on December 15th

It's hard to believe that it has been 40 years since the world famous Fountain was first turned on — but believe it or not, the Fountain turns the big four-ohhhh on December 15th.



The Fountain, which at full strength hits about 560 feet, was the concept of C.V. Wood, Jr., a planner for McCulloch Properties Inc. Wood had also worked with Walt Disney on the design for Disneyland.

Built as an attraction for prospective property buyers, the first surge of water took off on December 15, 1970 — the birthday of Fountain Hills. The Fountain remains a spectacle to behold and a tourist attraction.

To mark the occasion, the Fountain, which generally runs at two-thirds of its full capacity, will be operated at full strength on the 15th during its normal schedule.

Good Bids on Fountain Hills Blvd. Sidewalk Project

The Arizona Department of Transportation received 12 construction bids for the “Fountain Hills Blvd. Sidewalks to the Middle School” project, which were opened on October 22, 2010. The apparent low bidder is Visus Engineering Construction with a bid of \$190,000 – substantially below the construction cost estimate. These sidewalks, together with existing sidewalks, will complete the system on the west side of Fountain Hills Blvd. from Oxford Drive to the Middle School and on the east side of Fountain Hills Blvd. from Fayette Drive to the Middle School.



The new sidewalks will be eight feet wide north of the Saguaro Blvd. intersection, and six feet wide south of that intersection. In addition to these sidewalks, the project will also construct conduit and pull boxes for interconnecting any future traffic signals in the north end of Town. This conduit will run next to all of the new sidewalk lengths that are north of Saguaro Blvd.

The sidewalk will meander away from the roadway curb where topographically feasible – both for aesthetic reasons and to avoid existing improvements – but will stay within the existing Town right-of-way. Four inch PVC sleeves will be placed under the meandering sidewalk to allow re-connection of existing irrigation and to allow the adjacent property owners to readily install future irrigated vegetation between the sidewalk and the curb.

The Town Council approved an Intergovernmental Agreement with ADOT for this work on September 2, 2010. Because of the very competitive bids received, and due to relaxed Federal funding requirements during 2010, the Town’s matching funds

required for this project’s construction will be substantially reduced or eliminated. Staff held an open house in May of 2008, and the adjacent property owners granted Temporary Construction Easements where needed to enable the construction of these sidewalks.

The project’s traffic control drawings show the sidewalk construction work generally proceeding from south to north, with work on only one side of Fountain Hills Blvd. in each phase. Typical traffic control will have the inside traffic lane open on the side of the road with ongoing construction work; and with the two way left turn pocket, the two traffic lanes, and the bike lane open on the side opposite the ongoing construction work.

ADOT will be providing construction inspection for this project, including providing periodic press releases during the project’s construction.

Meet Your Neighbor Week

December 12th through the 18th is your chance to get out and meet your neighbors. Please call Town Hall at 816-5100 about block party support or other questions.



Museum Happenings

Now open . . . our special, once-a-year Holiday Mart! A delightful boutique filled with wonderful, one-of-a-kind items that will make your decorating a standout. Exciting new and lightly used items. Outstanding values, conveniently located. Items change, so you'll want to stop by often.

In addition, the River Bank Store has new items not found anywhere else in the Valley — a fun place to shop for that unique gift for someone special or for yourself, and you pay no sales tax! In addition, members of the museum receive a 10% discount.

While strolling through the Holiday Boutique and the River Bank Store, don't forget to purchase tickets for the Holiday Home Tour which is set for Sunday, December 5, from 5:00 to 8:00 pm. Tickets are just \$15, and you will visit several beautifully decorated homes as well as Fountain View Village and the Holiday Inn and Resort for Holiday Cookies.

Our Holiday boutique and River Bank Store are in the River of Time Museum, located in the Museum/Library Building in the Community Center Complex. Come in through either the store or museum entrance in the building's main lobby. The address is 12901 N. La Montana Blvd.



Both the Holiday Boutique and River Bank Store are open Tuesday through Saturday, 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. through December 24th.

An additional bargain - admission to the River of Time Museum is FREE during the month of December as a special gift to our community! Check us out at www.riveroftimemuseum.org.

Enjoy a perfect Holiday Experience at your River of Time Museum.

Lots of Reasons to Become A Senior/Boomer Member

The Activity Center for Seniors & Boomers provides hundreds of opportunities to prove that aging is only a number. The number of citizens who become members each year is growing, currently over one thousand! The **annual membership of \$15.00**, effective January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011, entitles members to many activities. Adults age 18 and over are eligible. Among the many programs, the Center offers educational classes and seminars throughout the year at minimal cost. Join us for the myriad games and activities played in-house. Sign-up today at the Community Center front desk! Call 480 816-5226 with questions or log onto www.fh.az.gov.

- There are over 30 different programs in which to participate
- Attend continuing education presentations
- Spend time in the lending library
- Receive free blood pressure screenings
- Attend health & wellness seminars
- Meet with Social Services representatives
- And so much more!



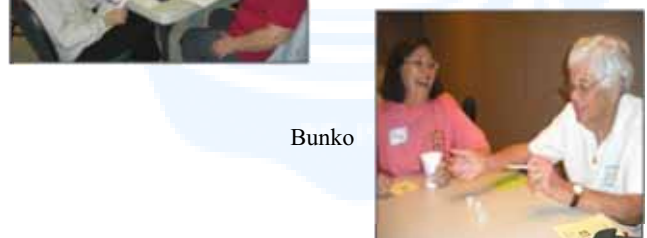
Line Dancing



Wood Carving



Mah Jongg



Bunko

Have a Holly, Jolly December

Holiday Magic at the Community Center

The Community Center will be transformed into a magical place, complete with wreaths, trees, and trains from now until the end of December. Come experience the Christmas spirit Fountain Hills style!



Stroll in the Glow

December 4, 5:00 p.m.
Stroll on Avenue of the Fountains - over 60,000 lights twinkle on the median. Santa arrives, carolers sing and shops are open for visitors.



Holiday Luminarias

December 22-24 at Sunset. Three nights before Christmas, luminarias are lit by hundreds of volunteers. Thousands of luminarias line the streets of downtown and the shores of Fountain Lake.



Art Walks

The Town's collection of almost 70 pieces of public art is valued at over \$1 million and includes pieces by internationally renowned artists from throughout the world. The tours will be conducted by trained volunteer docents who are familiar with the pieces of art, the artist, and the thoughts behind each artistic creation.



Civic Center Art Walk – Saturday, December 11 at 9:00 a.m.
Course #5531.

Avenue & Fountain Park Art Walk – Saturday, December 11 at 11:00 a.m. Course #5532.

Register at Town Hall or online at www.fh.az.gov/recreation.



Fabulously FUN Fridays

Fridays, December 10
from 7:00-9:30 p.m. at
the Community Center.



MOVIE NIGHT — The Twilight Saga: Eclipse - Bella once again finds herself surrounded by danger as Seattle is ravaged by a string of mysterious killings and a malicious vampire continues her quest for revenge.

In the midst of it all, she is forced to choose between her love for Edward and her friendship with Jacob -- knowing that her decision has the potential to ignite the struggle between vampire and werewolf. With her graduation quickly approaching, Bella is confronted with the most important decision of her life



McDowell Mountain Preserve Scheduled Hike

The Fountain Hills Sonoran Conservancy and the McDowell Mountain Preservation Commission are sponsoring a hike on Saturday, December 11th.

Learn about geology on this 5 mile, easy to moderate hike through the Preserve with Dan Gruber. Dan is an incredibly informative leader, so be prepared to learn! Bring two bottles of water. This hike begins at the end of Eagle Ridge Drive at 8:00 a.m. Each hiker must register at the start of the hike. Email Carol Ayers at quail10@aol.com or Elena Torre at etslp@aol.com with questions.



Art on the Avenue & Farmers' Market On the Avenue

Thursdays, 11:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., — Avenue of the Fountains
(No event on December 23rd or December 30th due to Holidays)

After a very successful start last year, the Art on the Avenue and Farmers' Market return to Fountain Hills and the Avenue of the Fountains. Come every Thursday and peruse some of the best artistic and culinary creations in the Great American Southwest.

Local artists display and sell their wares on the east end of the Avenue; while on the west end you can get fresh produce and homemade goodies.

Community Center Decked Out In Christmas Magic

It's that time of year when the Community Center gets dressed up for the Holidays. From now until the end of December, come experience the magic! Wreaths and trees decorated by local organizations deck the halls and toy trains complete their routes around the lobby of the Center. The trains are provided by Burling's Ton of Trains here in Fountain Hills.

This year's theme for the month long celebration is "Visions of Sugar Plums." — And speaking of sugar plums, don't miss the Sugar Plum Faire on December 4th from 2:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. The Faire will feature a craft activity center where "elves" assist guests in making ornaments. There will also be musical entertainment and goodies galore! Don't miss the magic of the Season at the Community Center.

The Center is open Monday—Friday, 9:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.



Seniors and Boomers Activities

Heard Museum Presentations

The Activity Center for Seniors & Boomers is excited to offer a series of educational presentations presented by the Heard Museum. Jerry Bryan, Heard Museum Guild Volunteer, will be your presenter. Jerry served as a professor from California State University in Fresno for 25 years. His specialty was International Marketing, which took him to over 30 countries, including Armenia, Kazakhstan, Macao, Poland, and Uganda. Now retired, he follows his interest in art, history, and Indian cultures by volunteering with the Heard Museum. The presentations will be held at the Fountain Hills Community Center from 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. on the dates listed below.

Pre-registration is required. To register, stop by the Community Center or call 480-816-5200, Monday – Friday between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. and reference the appropriate course number. The program is free for Activity Center members and there is a \$3.00 fee for non-members.

Wednesday, January 19 – Southwest Arts-Course #5550

Southwest Arts begins with an overview of environmental zones of the Hopi, Navajo, Apache, and O'odham reservations. The presentation includes examples of textiles, basketry, pottery, jewelry, painting, and sculpture from these diverse tribes.



Wednesday, February 16 – Hohokam and the O'odham-Course #5551

The prehistoric Hohokam people inhabited the Salt River Valley from about 1 to 1450 A.D. The desert tribes who today inhabit the Sonoran Desert are known as the O'odham. This presentation shows some of the history of these two cultures, including the periods, traditions, housing, farming, clothing, food, arts and crafts, and present day occupations of the O'odham.



Wednesday, March 2 – The Importance of Water to Native Americans-Course #5552



This presentation explores the relationship between rain and indigenous people of the Southwest. From prehistoric time to the present American Indians have welcomed rain into their lives and land, and prayed for its blessing through ceremony and creative expressions. Many expressions of rain and water focus on rain's essential relationship to fertility-to the generation of life in all forms. Some expressions are enduring, like the embroidery on clothing. Others are temporary, like body paint on a ceremonial dancer or pigments in a sand painting. Song, poetry and prayer petition the spirits and celebrate rain's blessing. For more information, contact the Activity Center for Seniors & Boomers at 480-816-5226 or visit the Town of Fountain Hills website at www.fh.az.gov.

How Medicines Work — Dr. Lucas Kimanga, Scottsdale Healthcare

Wednesday, January 12th from 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. at the Fountain Hills Community Center.

Back by popular demand, Dr. Lucas Kimanga enjoys explaining how medications work, how best to use them, what to expect (benefits and side effects), and how to monitor therapy. Compliance is important and easier if the patient is well informed. Also, learn about the interaction of certain medications with other medications.

Dr. Lucas Kimanga has a Doctor of Pharmacy degree. He worked in an independent compounding pharmacy and presently works at Scottsdale Healthcare Osborn campus as a hospital pharmacist. Dr. Kimanga's thorough knowledge of medications and his ability to communicate his knowledge to the public have made him a very popular guest speaker.

Cost: Free for Activity Center members. There is a \$3.00 fee for non-members.

Pre-registration is required. Stop by the Community Center Monday-Friday between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. **Reference course #5547.** For more information, contact the Activity Center for Seniors & Boomers at 480-816-5226 or visit the Town of Fountain Hills website at www.fh.az.gov.

Armchair Travelogue

Wednesday, December 15 – “Christmas in Arizona”

With seven climate zones and a rich and diverse history, Arizona is home to many wonderful Holiday celebrations. Join us to learn more.



The Activity Center, through TJ's Travel, presents “Armchair Travelogue” for travel enthusiasts. If there are day trips you would like, this is the time to present your suggestions. In addition, the monthly travelogues will have different themes of trips taken by TJ's Travel which are varied and interesting. Activity Center membership is required. No pre-registration required.

For more information, contact the Activity Center for Seniors & Boomers at 480-816-5226 or visit the Town of Fountain Hills website at www.fh.az.gov.



Recreation Delivers December Fun

Sign up for a Town of Fountain Hills Community Services class during the month of October. There is so much to do as the weather begins to cool. Remember, you can sign up for all classes by surfing on over to <http://www.fh.az.gov/recreation>. Classes are first-come, first-served — so don't delay.

One-Day Workshops and Seminars

CPR Training

If you want to learn how to save a life in a moment of need and are at least 16 years old, become certified in CPR through the American Safety and Health Institute. This course is not offered to healthcare professionals. The course is offered Saturday, December 11, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at a cost of \$30 to residents and \$40 to non-residents. Fountain Hills High School students can receive community service hours by obtaining certification. Cost to students is \$20. You must sign up before noon on the Thursday prior to the class. Course #5409.

Sports Activities

Junior Golf

Kids learn from the pros how to drive, pitch, and putt, as well as everything they need to know about the game of golf. There is a limit of eight students in each four-class session to guarantee a low student-to-teacher ratio. Classes will be held Mondays and Wednesdays, December 6-15 from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. The course costs \$52 and is held at the Sunridge Canyon Golf Club, led by its Director of Instruction, Jeff Newell. Course #5392.



Pickleball

Pickleball mania is alive and well in the hills of Arizona. Fountain Hills has six pickleball courts (three lighted) where a fun-loving group gets together three to four times a week (or more!) to play, exercise, and improve their pickleball skills. Who says you can't get the benefits of exercise and have fun too?



What is pickleball? Pickleball is a blend of tennis, badminton, and ping pong. It can be played indoors or outdoors. Pickleball is a great way to meet new people and play a game that is right for a variety of skill levels and ages. It is a fun, easy sport to learn! Come swing a paddle with us and enjoy one of the fastest growing sports in America. The **Town of Fountain Hills Community Services** is a proud partner of the Fountain Hills Pickleball Club. For more information on open play, lessons, and courts, check out www.fountainhillspickleball.com.

What is pickleball? Pickleball is a blend of tennis, badminton, and ping pong. It can be played indoors or outdoors. Pickleball is a great way to meet new people and play a game that is right for a variety of skill levels and ages. It is a fun, easy sport to learn! Come swing a paddle with us and enjoy one of the fastest growing sports in America. The **Town of Fountain Hills Community Services** is a proud partner of the Fountain Hills Pickleball Club. For more information on open play, lessons, and courts, check out www.fountainhillspickleball.com.

Youth Basketball

Community Services is partnering for the fourth year to offer Fountain Hills Youth Basketball. Boys and girls ages 5-14 (K-8 grades) are encouraged to participate in this Jr. Suns/Jr. Mercury affiliated league. Age of participant is as of December 1, 2010. Copy of Birth Certificate required. Fee: \$95 per participant + \$25 Boys and Girls Club membership fee. Includes eight games/tournament/awards/uniform. For more information on this program, contact Chad Holland - cholland@bgcs.org or (480) 344-5406 Anjelica Giardino - agiardino@fh.az.gov or (480) 816-5132



Important Dates

Dec 3 - Registration Deadline
Dec 6 - Player Drafts (Coed Ages 5-7) 6 p.m.
Dec 7 - Player Drafts (Boys Ages 8-9) 6 p.m.
Dec 9 - Player Drafts (Boys Ages 10-11) 6 p.m.
Dec 10 - Player Drafts (Boys Ages 12-14) 6 p.m.
Dec 13 - Player Drafts (Girls Ages 8-10) 6 p.m.
Dec 14 - Player Drafts (Girls Ages 11-14) 6 p.m.
Jan 3 - Games Begin @ McKee Branch
March - Tournament and Awards

Special Interest Programs

Yoga

Take one of these healthy and relaxing Yoga classes. Revitalize and refresh yourself. Whether you are in a beginner or intermediate class, you will see the benefits immediately! Please bring a mat and water with you. Dress is very comfortable and performed in bare feet. Cost is \$48 per participant. All classes are held at Yoga Village, located at 16650 E. Palisades Blvd., Ste. 107.



Beginning – Mondays, November 29—December 20, from 8:30-9:50 a.m. Course #5463.

Beginning – Thursdays, December 9-30, from 5:30-6:50 p.m. Course #5459.

Restorative – Sundays, November 28-December 16, from 5:30-6:50 p.m. Course #5467.

Town of Fountain Hills, AZ

16705 E. Avenue of the Fountains
Fountain Hills, AZ 85268



Mayor

Jay T. Schlum

Vice Mayor

Dennis Brown

Council Members

Dennis Contino

Ginny Dickey

Tait Elkie

Cassie Hansen

Henry Leger

Town Manager

Rick Davis, ICMA-CM

Volunteer of the Month

When you need results and successful outcomes, Rose Gonsoulin is your go-to person. Rose is the volunteer grant writer for the Home Delivered Meals program on behalf of Senior Services, Inc. Rose wrote the Fountain Hills Community Foundation Grant on behalf of Senior Services, Inc. which was awarded \$5,500 – of which \$5,000 will go toward the Home Delivered Meal program and \$500 will go toward the Parkinson's Support Group. Rose also wrote the Season for Sharing Grant, and Senior Services, Inc. is awaiting its outcome. These grant funds make meals more affordable.

Rose is an outstanding volunteer, as demonstrated by her continued commitment to support the HDM program by volunteering her time and talent to write the grants requesting funds for the program, as well as by serving as the Sunday volunteer coordinator. She has been delivering meals since 2004. Rose also finds time to serve as Give a Lift driver in the volunteer transportation program sponsored by the Town. She recognizes the many needs of several residents in Fountain Hills and responds with her time



Volunteer of the Month
Rose Gonsoulin

and service. In addition to serving others, Rose recognizes the benefits of volunteering as she has gained a good friend in her HDM delivery partner. Rose's contributions have been extremely important during these tough economic times. Many thanks, Rose for all that you do to help serve many residents in need! You are an excellent volunteer.

Town of Fountain Hills Presents

MUNCH AND MUSIC

Please join us for free lunchtime concerts

Vocals, piano, Broadway tunes, trombone and the Community Band...what could be more terrific than a free concert! Just add your brown bag lunch and join in the "Munch and Music" lunchtime concert series in the Community Center.

Fridays from 12:15 pm to 12:45 pm

January 28: Eddie Madden, trombone and piano

February 4: The OK Chorale

February 11: Mary Ann McBride and Co. Broadway tunes & Show Stoppers

February 18: Community Band of Fountain Hills

March 4: Anita Bakey Studios, Vocals and piano

March 11: Banjo Band

Fountain Hills Community Center Lobby
13001 N. La Montana Drive

